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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

N. P. EGAN, Business Manager.

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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 30, 1874. NO. 170.

FIRST EDITION.

HARRISBURG.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, March 27, 1874.

The Legislature closed up its work, today, preparatory to the first of April recess; and, as I write, the members are scattering off home, in all directions, glad of the chance to get away.

The House went through its calendar of bills on second reading, disposing of them all, and will have a long list of bills on third reading to dispose of, when it again meets. The Centennial bill, the Legislative Salary bill, the various corporation bills, and tax bills, are among these.

The committees also cleaned themselves out, reporting nearly all the bills before them, so that the House will have but little original business to dispose of when it meets. It can take up all its present undisposed of business and get rid of it in two weeks.

Some dozen or two new bills were read in place, but they were nearly all local, and mainly for the repeal of local laws or parts of laws passed heretofore. The general legislation of the session, it is safe to say, has nearly all been introduced, and is on the way for prompt legislative action.

There is no good reason, therefore, for prolonging this session beyond the 30th of April. All the new bills needed can be prepared within the first week after the Legislature meets again, and the other two weeks succeeding will be sufficient to take up all that will then be pending, and act upon it.

The House had a final squabble over the Newspaper bill, this morning. This bill originated in the Senate; was introduced during the first week; was the second bill reported; and was sent to the House within the first two weeks of the session. It has been held there ever since, and been discussed, amended and quarreled over until everybody was disgusted with it. Finally, last week it got into the hands of a Conference Committee, which disposed of it promptly, and the Senate as promptly got rid of it by adopting the report and notifying the House of its action; but the House managed to maintain its character by tossing it about like a foot-ball for two days more. It first refused to adopt the report, and then recommitted the bill to the Conference Committee; but the Senate having adopted the report, there was no longer any Conference Committee to refer it back to. So the House again took up the report and rejected it; but this morning, after an infinity of worthless talk, it reconsidered its action and finally adopted the report, 72 to 14. One is compelled to wonder, in view of this final vote, why it has been so difficult to arrive at decisive action on so plain a question.

In the Senate, the amendments made by the House to bill No. 59, relative to the manner of increasing municipal indebtedness were concurred in and this bill, along with No. 2, to provide for paying for advertising the new Constitution, were sent to the Governor. The following House bills were also passed finally, and sent to the Governor:

To enable railroads, canals and other transportation companies to accept the terms of the seventh article of the Constitution, adopted the 16th day of December, A. D. 1873.

Making appropriations for the salaries of the officers and the improvement of the grounds of the Western Pensylvania Hospital at Dixmont.

As in the House, the committees of the Senate reported on nearly all the bills in their possession, so that business is in just as forward a condition there as in the House.

The following bills were reported negatively, to-day. In Senate:

House bill No. 135, An act making appropriations for the support of the State School Home for Colored soldiers' orphans at Bridgewater, Bucks county.

House bill No. 94, An act making an appropriation for defraying current expenses of the Orthopedic Hospital at Philadelphia.

In the House:

Senate bill 84, An act for the relief of Rebecca Stock, widow of a soldier of the war of 1812.

A supplement to an act for the better protection of the wages of mechanics, miners, laborers and others.

Senate bill 116, An act to provide for the payment of assessors appointed by the commissioners of election in the city of Philadelphia. Resolution relative to the payment of interest on deposits by private bankers, State banks and national banks. Senate bill No. 72, An act regulating State tax on certain county officers. Senate bill 75, An act in relation to attachments for wages, preventing stay of execution on judgments obtained for $150 or less. An act to amend an act to regulate the public printing in Clinton county. An act for the better protection of persons and property from the dangers of petroleum and its products. An act to provide for the better security of life and property from the dangers of coal and petroleum oils. An act relating to the fees of district attorneys and other officers in the several counties of this Commonwealth. SPECIAL.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, March 28, 1874.

THE TROUBLES OF JAYNE.

John P. Atkinson, street broker and discharged Custom House officer, has been arrested on a charge of attempting to stab Special Agent B. G. Jayne. Jayne says it is the third time that Atkinson has attempted to take his life, and gives as an explanation that he caused his dismissal from the Custom House four years ago for frauds on the government. Atkinson says he only defended himself, seizing a heavy cane which Jayne attempted to strike him with, and threatened to stab him if the cane was used, Atkinson says the whole affair grew out of a demand by him upon Jayne for thirty-five thousand dollars as the former's fees in the Weed case, in Boston, which Jayne has repeatedly refused to pay, denying that Atkinson has any claim.

The counsel for Hays, the alleged informer in the Woodruff and Robinson case, have begun suit against Special Agent Jayne to recover twelve thousand dollars illegally drawn by him as informer.

CONTINUED EFFORTS OF TWEED'S COUNSEL.

The Supreme Court has granted an order to show cause why a writ of mandamus should not be issued against Judge Davis, on motion of the counsel for Tweed, who claim there were certain exceptions taken in course of the trial, and noted by the stenographer in his minutes, which the Chief Justice improperly refused to allow in settling the case. The order is made returnable on the 23d of April next, and the counsel for Tweed are given until the 15th of the same month to submit further affidavits.

INSPECTORS OF ARRIVING GRAIN.

The Committee of Grain Receivers of the Produce Exchange and representatives of the different railroads terminating here, have agreed that the former should appoint an inspector-in-chief and a deputy for the terminus of each railroad, who will grade wheat on its arrival and accept the certificate of inspection at any lake port as evidence of grade. The railroad companies will pay the inspectors.

SUBORNATION OF PERJURY.

Austin Black, of the firm of Black & Spaulding, gold brokers, and J. H. Dusenbury, have been arrested on indictments charging them with attempting to induce a perjury, and the offense, it is claimed, occurred in connection with a suit begun by Austin Black and Putnam F. Spaulding against the Continental bank to recover $63,125 with interest from May 1, 1866, upon a check deposited with plaintiffs by one John Ross, a forger, and which bore a certification of the bank.

FIRE RECORD.

Plymouth, Ind.—$12,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PLYMOUTH, IND., March 28, 1874.

The Empire House, one of the largest hotels in the city, was completely destroyed by fire to-day, caused by a defective flue. The loss on the building is eight thousand dollars, and on the contents four thousand. Partially insured in the Phœnix.

Akron, Ohio—$12,000.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

AKRON, O., March 28, 1874.

The building of G. W. Camp was destroyed by fire last night. The loss is twelve thousand dollars.

Furniture House in Columbus.

COLUMBUS, March 28.—The furniture establishment of R. Innes, in Exchange block, W. Broad street, caught on fire at 9 o'clock this evening in the varnishing room. The building was completely burned out. *Loss unknown.* No insurance.

Louisville Theater—$8,000.

LOUISVILLE, March 29.—Etlep's Vaudeville Theater was burned this morning. The interior was completely destroyed, and most of the actors lost all their costumes. The loss is estimated at $8,000, with no insurance.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

UNIVERSITY BOAT RACE.

LONDON, March 28, 5:30 P. M.—The annual race between Oxford and Cambridge came off this morning over the usual course on the Thames, from Putney to Mortlake, a distance of four miles and two furlongs, and as was the case for the past four years, resulted in a victory for the Cambridge boat, by four lengths. The weather was beautiful and the crowd unprecedented. On the Surrey side of the river, the whole length of the course, there was a compact mass of people one hundred and fifty feet deep, and at Mortlake carriages were in long lines, five deep. The Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Edinburgh were absent. Cambridge won the choice of position and took the Middlesex or northern line. The Oxford crew rowed into the stream at nine minutes past eleven. Five minutes later the Cambridge crew appeared, and were received with immense cheering. Betting at this time was five to two in favor of the Cambridge. At fourteen minutes past eleven the signal to start was given. Immediately upon receiving the word to start, both boats took the water simultaneously, but, after a few strokes, Cambridge was a quarter of a length in advance, and at Bishop's creek, three furlongs from Aqueduct bridge, the starting point, nearly clear of their opponents. Here the steering of both boats became eccentric, and the time was bad in consequence. Again, between Craven Point and Hammersmith bridge, the coxswain of Oxford steered wildly. Off Crabtree, seven furlongs from Bishop's creek, Oxford decreased the lead of Cambridge by a spurt, and at the Soap Works, about one hundred and four furlongs from Aqueduct bridge, was only one length behind the Cantabs. At Hammersmith bridge the Cambridge lost half a length by bad steering, but off the Doves again went ahead fast. The Dark Blues made another spurt, and drew up nearly level with the Cantabs, and off Chiswick Church succeeded in getting one quarter of a length in advance. The excitement now became intense, and cheer upon cheer went up from the Oxford's supporters. In Coney Reach, about two miles and a half from Aqueduct bridge, Cambridge took the lead again and passed Barnes bridge, almost nine furlongs beyond Coney Reach, a length and a half ahead. Here Oxford rowed wildly and Cambridge kept the lead to the end, reaching the stake boat, at Mortlake, four lengths in advance of their opponents amid the deafening cheers of the crowds on shore, and winning the race in 23 minutes and 35 seconds. Both crews were very much exhausted, but Oxford appeared the most distressed. This evening the victors and their opponents dine together at the Criterion restaurant, the Oxford crew having declined the invitation of Lord Mayor Lusk to both crews to a dinner in the Mansion House.

Southern Judicial Districts.

LIVINGSTONE'S REMAINS AT SUEZ—PARTICULARS OF HIS DEATH—THE JOURNEY THROUGH DIFFICULTIES TO CIVILIZATION.

Herald Special.]

LONDON, March 29.—The steamer Malina arrived off Suez at 11 o'clock Saturday night. Arthur Laing and Jacob Wainwright were on board in charge of the remains of Dr. Livingstone. He had been ill with chronic dysentery for several months. He was well supplied with stores and medicines, but had a presentiment that the attack would prove fatal. Arriving at Molida, beyond Lake Bemba, in the Bisa country, he said, "Build me a hut to die in." The first of May he was confined to bed, and afterwards suffered greatly, groaning night and day. The third day he said he was very cold. The fourth day he was insensible, and died about midnight. He made the last entry in his diary April 27. After his death his Secretary removed the body to another hut and built a high fence around it. Subsequently, when he removed the internal organs, placed them in a tin box and buried them inside the fence, under a large tree, on which Wainwright cut "Doctor Livingstone. Died May 4, 1873." The body was preserved in salt and dried in the sun twelve days. The chief of Bisa, on hearing of the death, had drums beaten and guns fired as a token of respect, and allowed the remains to be placed in a coffin of bark. The journey to Unyanjembe consumed six months. There the remains were placed in another bark case and done up to represent a bale of goods, so as to deceive the natives who objected to the passage of dead bodies, and so they were conveyed to Zanzibar.

DEATH OF A NOBLEMAN—LANDING OF WRECKED COTTON.

LONDON, March 28.—Baron Rossmore is dead. Ten hundred and fifty-six bales of cotton have been landed at Elsinger, from the ship Charles A. Farwell, stranded on the voyage from Savannah to Renal.

THE QUEEN TO REVIEW THE ASHANTEE HEROES AND REWARD THEIR COMMANDER.

LONDON, March 30, 6 A. M.—The Queen will review the troops of the Ashantee expedition at one o'clock, at Windsor. After the review, a dinner will be given the troops at the Castle. A baronetcy will be conferred on General Wolseley, who will also receive orders of knighthood.

Spain.

SUCCESSES OF THE REPUBLICANS.

MADRID, March 28.—Marshal Serrano's attack on Pedro-Abanto has been successful. The Carlists were driven beyond Santa Guliana.

MADRID, March 29.—The Carlist forces in Valencia, under command of Santos, have been defeated by the government troops, with a loss of 80 killed and 200 taken prisoners. In the last engagement before Bilbao, General Primo de Rivera was severely, and General Loma slightly wounded.

LONDON, March 29.—The *Times'* correspondent at Serrano's headquarters telegraphs that the losses in the battle on Friday before Bilbao were enormous. Rivera was mortally wounded. When the national troops heard this they refused to give quarter. Gen. Loma was seriously wounded, and two Colonels were killed.

France.

RUMORED ESCAPE OF ROCHEFORT AND GROUSSET.

PARIS, March 28.—The rumor is current that Rochefort and Pascal Grousset have escaped from the penal colony of New Caledonia to Australia.

Germany.

BISMARCK THREATENS TO RESIGN.

LONDON, March 30.—The *Standard's* special dispatch from Berlin reports that Bismarck threatens to resign in consequence of the opposition of the Reichstag to the Army bill.

Russia.

TRADE-MARK TREATY MADE WITH THE UNITED STATES.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 28.—Hon. Marshall Jewell, United States Minister, today signed a declaration respecting trade-marks, giving American manufacturers equal rights with those of Russia. This is the first treaty signed in both the Russian and English languages.

Austria.

VIENNA, March 28.—Several deputies have presented resolutions in the lower House of the Reichsrath, requiring the government to expel from the country Jesuits and all orders affiliated therewith.

Marine News.

LONDON, March 28.—Steamship Anglia, from New York, arrived out.

LIVERPOOL, March 29.—Steamships Frisia and Manhattan, from New York, arrived out.

QUEENSTOWN, March 29.—The steamer City of Richmond, from New York, has arrived.

European Markets.

LONDON, March 28.—Consols 93¼@92. 5-20's, 1865, 106½; do, 1867, 105½; 10-40's, 104½; new 5's, 103½. New York Central 96; Erie 39½; Erie preferred 61.

PARIS, March 28.—Rentes 59 francs 85 centimes.

FRANKFORT, March 28.—United States 5-20's of 1862, 88⅝.

LIVERPOOL, March 28.—Cotton dull at 8½@ 8¾d; sales 10,000 bales; American 5,000; speculation and export 2,000. Breadstuffs quiet and unchanged. Cheese 64s.

ANTWERP, March 28.—Refined petroleum 33 francs.

STATE LEGISLATURES.

Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, March 28.—The social evil question, which has excited great interest in this city during the past winter and been the subject of much contention in the Legislature, is finally settled at the session of the House last night. The bill regulating the regulating clause of the city charter was passed, and then the bill which passed the Senate on Tuesday, and which retains the present hospital and Reformatory and prevents the raiding of bawdy houses, was adopted by a large majority.

Suspension of Coal Mining.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOGAN, O., March 28, 1874.

The coal operators at New Straitsville have all suspended operation in the mining of coal. An alteration arose between the operators and the miners as regards the price per bushel for mining.

THE way trade beats population is illustrated by the fact that the total amount of the export trade of the great commercial nations of the world was in 1855 but $4,241,700,000, while in 1872 it had reached the sum of $9,276,000,000, being an increase of 118½ per cent. The *per capita* distribution of this trade was in 1855, for each individual, $15 62, and in 1872 it amounted to $29 76. So that, notwithstanding the increase in population in the countries referred to, the *per capita* increase in export trade has been 90 per cent.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

When Shall We Resume?

HAMLIN'S AMENDMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

VIEWS OF SENATOR SCOTT.

Progress of the Moiety Investigation.

OVERHAULING THE SOUTHERN JUDICIAL DISTRICTS.

CASE OF COMMISSIONER BAKER

THE OHIO RIVER BRIDGE CASE.

Distribution of Farragut Prize Money.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1874.

Date of Specie Resumption.

The prevailing impression in the Senate is, that the provision in the new Finance bill, fixing the date of specie resumption at 1876, should not pass, as its execution would seem to be impracticable. The amendment introduced by Senator Hamlin just previous to the adjournment of Friday, placing the date at 1877, is received with more favor, and is almost sure to pass. Senator Scott will vote for the later date, and should the Senate not feel disposed to act directly on the specie question, the Senator now contemplates offering an amendment to redeem the currency in bonds.

The Moiety Investigation.

The Committee on Ways and Means will not await the return of Sanborn, but will resume the moiety investigation on Tuesday, and will examine Secretary Richardson and other Treasury officials in relation to the matter. The inquiry will extend to an endeavor to ascertain the exact amount collected by the special agents and the amounts paid into the Treasury. They will also inquire whether in many cases the collections could not have been made without the intervention of special agents, if the regular United States officers had done their full duty. Some of the committee expect to show before the matter is through, that there was unparalleled remissness on the part of many officers. It is said, however, that in certain cases the special agent divided with the officials.

Southern Judicial Districts.

The testimony of the Attorney General before the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of Justice, as well as other circumstances, would seem to indicate that the Marshals' offices in the Judicial districts in the lately reconstructed States of the South are not in a very satisfactory condition. The committee was organized primarily because of rumors affecting the Judicial officers in the Western district of Arkansas, but it had no sooner commenced to investigate, than it was found that a much wider field was open for exploration. The last one brought to the attention of the committee is that of the Northern district of Georgia, in which frauds are alleged.

Case of Commissioner Baker.

The House Committee on Elections will, probably, during the present week, take up and investigate the charges against Commissioner Baker.

Ohio River Bridge Case.

Judge Swayne, of the Supreme Court, will go to Cincinnati in May to hear the Ohio river bridge case, in which the Pennsylvania Central Railroad is interested.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1874.

THE FARRAGUT PRIZE MONEY

is to be paid without further delay, the prize list having been forwarded to the Fourth Auditor. The total amount of prize money proper is $350,000 and $200,000 additional bounty for the destruction of Confederate vessels. The number of United States ships taking part in the engagement is forty-four, and the number of officers and men sharing in the prize awards is between 2,500 and 3,000. The Farragut estate will receive one-twentieth of the whole amount, or about $35,000. The three division commanders will receive one-fiftieth each, and other officers in proportion to their pay.

GENEVA AWARD AND THE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

The House Judiciary Committee to-day decided that no provision should be made out of the Geneva award for reimbursing insurance companies for any losses under policies insuring vessels destroyed by Confederate cruisers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 29, 1874.

SALE OF GOLD IN APRIL.

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Assistant Treasurer at New York to sell one million gold each Thursday during the month of April—five millions in all.

TEMPERANCE CAMPAIGN.

Crestline.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CRESTLINE, O., March 28, 1874.

Thirty women visited the Gibson House and City Hotel to-day. They were admitted to both, but were not allowed to sing or pray in the Gibson House. G. B. Haviland, the proprietor, of the City Hotel, received the women kindly, and signed their pledge amid great rejoicing.

Wooster, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WOOSTER, O., March 28, 1874.

The crusade against intemperance is still in active operation. The saloon keepers are persistent—the ladies resolute and determined. Last night the McConnellsville ordinance passed the City Council, to take effect May 8th. The vote stood six for, one against, and one blank. The victory was announced to an assembly of over a thousand people, who had gathered in the C. P. church to await the result and pray for the success of the ordinance. The announcement was made by Mr. Kanke, and responded to with shouts of gladness, and in short time, the ringing of all the church bells. To-day an all-day prayer meeting has been in progress.

Bucyrus, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BUCYRUS, O., March 28, 1874.

The women were out this forenoon in three bands, and visited all the saloons, six of which they were allowed to enter. This morning the Women's Temperance League of Findlay, O., in a telegram of condolence to the League, of this place, extend their sympathy and prayers, and say, "God have pity on your City Council." Next week guards will be placed at each saloon.

Upper Sandusky, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

UPPER SANDUSKY, O., March 28, 1874.

This morning the temperance crusade reached its crisis in this place. The ladies have been picketing the saloon of John Clark for several days, and this morning, while two ladies were in the saloon, Mr. J. E. Grissell, a prominent attorney, and an ardent advocate of the ladies' crusade, came up the pavement in front of the saloon, and was met at the door by Watt Sulliger, clerk in the saloon, with a loaded shot gun. Sulliger ordered Grissell off the pavement, at the same time making menacing gestures with the gun. Mr. Grissell told him the pavement was free for all, and refused to leave. Grissell then seized the gun by the muzzle, and, with the assistance of two other citizens, disarmed his assailant. In the excitement which followed, Sulliger escaped, but was captured by the Marshal about two miles west of town, and taken before the Mayor, who held him under bonds of five hundred dollars to appear Monday and answer a charge of assault with intent to commit murder.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BUCYRUS, O., March 29, 1874.

An overwhelming public opinion has caused the Mayor to realize that the women could not safely be stopped. All physical opposition has ceased. Large bands were out Saturday morning. Undisturbed quiet reigned. Orator Shaw lost his election nomination at the primary election Saturday.

Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, March 28.—The Women's Temperance League have observed Mayor Johnston's proclamation forbidding street prayers before saloons, but have not indicated their future policy. An immense meeting of all classes of citizens, twenty-five hundred people being present, was held at Exposition Hall to-night and listened to speeches from Judge Whitman, Judge Taft, Rabbi Lilienthal, Oziv J. Dodds, E. W. Kethridge, George F. Davis, James H. Laws and Emil Rothe, in behalf of a judicious license law. George F. Davis presided. Resolutions were adopted that a judicious license law met the wants of the times, and was the best solution of the problem of liquor traffic. The women's movement was spoken of respectfully, though condemned by implication.

Inducements Offered

for cash and to prompt men at the Checkered Front, 25 cents per barrel on flour, and 1 per cent. on other goods if paid in ten days. See advertisement.

Susquehanna Depot Riot.

ERIE RAILROAD CUT IN TWO.

Strikers Refuse to Consider Peace Propositions.

Governor Hartranft to the Rescue.

A Thousand Troops and a Section of Artillery in the Field.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, PA., March 28.—An excited meeting has just been held by the strikers here. They are firm and will not allow trains to pass nor any business to be done until the railroad company accedes to all their demands. The District Attorney made an address to the strikers, assuring them of his sympathy and that they were not breaking the law. The company have the alterative to accede to the demands of the men, or send for the military. Intense excitement prevails throughout the village, and the Sheriff is powerless, his posse all sympathizing with the strikers.

AID ASKED OF GOVERNOR HARTRANFT.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, March 28.—To-day arrangements were made whereby passenger trains were permitted by the strikers to go through, but this evening the road is completely blockaded again. Sheriff Helm has telegraphed to Governor Hartranft for 1,500 troops. The Governor has replied that General Osborne has been ordered to move his division.

ARRIVAL OF TROOPS—MOLE EN ROUTE.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, March 29.—Five hundred troops, with a section of a light battery, have arrived here and more are *en route*. The following propositions were submitted to the strikers:

First, All trains to run without further interference from the men as soon as they can be made up.

Second, The paymaster to pay off all men for February and March, beginning to-morrow.

Third, All men when paid off to be considered out of the company's employ.

Fourth, The company will employ all such men as they think for their interest.

Fifth, The men pledge themselves not to interfere with cars, trains, shops or other property in any respect.

Sixth, If no interference or intimidation is hereafter attempted with the employees or property of the company, and all parts of the machinery are at once replaced, the company will seek to make no arrests for anything done during the strike.

The strikers refused to consider the propositions of the company until to-morrow morning, as they have decided, however, to allow passenger travel to be resumed at once, but refused to allow freight to be moved. It is expected that the troops will at once take possession of all property by force.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—The First Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia, has been under arms all day, waiting developments at Susquehanna Depot. Three hundred and fifty men leave for that place to-night.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—The First City Troop of Cavalry has been ordered to-night to the scene of trouble. The State Fencibles and the Second Regiment are now under arms, awaiting orders. It is reported that Governor Hartranft has asked Governor Parker, of New Jersey, for the services of the Sixth New Jersey Regiment.

PHILADELPHIA, March 29.—The First Regiment, 350 strong, left this evening for Susquehanna Depot. The Second Regiment have been ordered to hold themselves in readiness to move.

SUSQUEHANNA, PA., March 29.—Another detachment of soldiers has arrived here, the following telegrams explain themselves:

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, March 29, 1874.

To A. J. Hartranft, Governor of Pennsylvania:

The undersigned, citizens of Susquehanna Depot, do most respectfully but earnestly protest against the introduction of armed troops into our borough at this time, to be used in supporting the interests of a corporation against our own citizens, who ask nothing but their hard earned wages due to them from said corporation. We do not believe that any such emergency as calls for such extreme measures. No peace officer of our borough has been called upon to interfere, nor has any attempt of yourself or any officer to make an arrest been resisted. We also protest against the employment of troops under command of paid counsel of the corporation in whose interest they are used. We ask, in the name of humanity, that the order issued for such measures be countermanded, as otherwise we have reason to fear great destruction of life and property.

Signed by a majority of leading citizens of this borough. Reply immediately.

(Signed) W. J. FALKENBERG,
Burgess.

HARRISBURG, March 29, 1874.

W. J. FALKENBERG, Burgess, Susquehanna Depot, Pa.: As an individual I may sympathize with your people in their misfortune in not receiving prompt payment of their dues, but as Chief Executive of this State I must not allow officers, however meritorious their claims may be, to forcibly seize the property of their debtors and hold it without due process of law. Nor can I allow a mob to take and hold illegal possession of a great highway and punish an innocent public, either as passengers or transporters, for the default of a corporation with which they have no concern. Whenever the laws of this Commonwealth shall provide that employees of a railroad may suspend traffic upon it until their wages are paid, I will acquiesce, but I cannot do so while the law refuses to contemplate any such remedy. My duty is not to make laws or to criticise them, but to execute them; and that duty I must discharge without fear or favor. General Osborne is the officer in command. I have implicit confidence in his impartiality, firmness and discretion. I have ordered him to confer with the sheriff of your county, who is its proper peace officer. If the laws are not set at defiance, the sheriff will so inform General Osborne. If they are set at defiance General Osborne has been ordered to enforce obedience to them. If unfortunate consequences follow, the responsibility must rest with those who endeavor to redress their wrongs by violence, in contempt of the laws of their country and of the officers whose sworn duty it is to take care that they be faithfully executed.

(Signed) J. F. HARTRANFT.

THE MILITARY IN QUIET POSSESSION.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, March 30, 1 A. M.—Everything is quiet. The military have possession of the buildings of the Erie Railroad Company. Passenger trains are moving. Freight trains are blockaded, awaiting the meeting of strikers at eight A. M. on Wednesday. A very uneasy feeling prevails.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

In the pigeon shooting match at Stamford, Conn., on Saturday, Paine killed 81 and Ward 18.

The schooner Canadian, with wheat from Toronto, arrived at Oswego last Friday. This is the first arrival of the season.

The French Assembly has adjourned till May 12; the German Reichstag, till April 9, and the Italian Chambers till April 14.

Miss Mary Louisa Shaw has bequeathed $67,000 to charitable institutions in Boston, remembering Catholics and Protestants alike.

It is rumored there is trouble between Roumania and Turkey, growing out of the action of the former in fixing customs tariffs with other European powers.

The steamships State of Pennsylvania, from Glasgow, Herman, from Bremen, Absalom, from Newcastle, Eng., and Caledonia, from Glasgow, have arrived at New York.

Southwesterly winds, slightly lower barometer and higher temperature, with increasing cloudiness and occasional snow or rain, are the probabilities for to-day in Ohio valley and Lake regions.

The remains of Mrs. Ostrander, Wm. Mundy and the cabin boy of the Crescent City were forwarded to St. Louis Saturday, by the Grand Tower. The remains of Captain Dawson have been recovered.

The following steamers have arrived at New York: State of Pennsylvania, from Glasgow; Herman, from Bremen; Absalom, from Newcastle, England; and the California and Ethiopia, from Glasgow.

King Victor Emanuel is said to have burnt the address sent him by citizens of Trieste, which contained disloyal sentiments towards Austria, and that he will send a note to the Austrian government, formally disavowing sympathies with the address.

Thomas D. Grundy, Sheriff of McCracken county, Ky., has instituted a libel suit against the Louisville *Commercial*, laying his damages at twenty-five thousand dollars. The *Commercial* stated that Grundy was intoxicated while taking a batch of prisoners to the penitentiary.

The fifth ballot for United States Senator was taken Saturday, in Boston, with the following results: Bowles, 88; Hoar, 75; Adams, 23; Banks, 7. Whittier, Washburne and Pierce received each one vote. Whole number of votes, 254; necessary to a choice, 128. The convention adjourned till Monday.

Cheese and Fish.

The largest stock of fish and the best New York Goshen cheese can be found at the Checkered Front. See advertisement. T. C. Jenkins.

THE BROOKLYN COUNCIL

SESSION PROTRACTED TILL MIDNIGHT

ANOTHER COMMUNICATION FROM TILTON.

A VERDICT REACHED AT LAST.

Plymouth Church Censured for Its Action,

But Not Debarred from Further Fellowship.

NEW YORK, March 28.—Theodore Tilton sent another open letter to the Council, asking, as an act of justice to himself, that the true record be permitted to accompany the false. He says: "Among the fine points which you are asked to decide concerning my case with Plymouth church, the second will pass into a permanent statement on your journal as follows: 'During the voluntary absence of a member from the ordinances, if specific charges of grossly unchristian conduct are presented against him by a brother in the church, to which charges he declines to answer,' etc. The above statement, which has been constantly reiterated during your proceedings, implies that gross charges were made against me, and that these charges I declined to answer. Gentlemen of the council, every man among you knows that I did not decline to answer."

Shortly before twelve to-night, the doors of the church were thrown open to the people in waiting, that they might hear the reading of the verdict of the Council by the Moderator, Rev. Leonard Bacon.

The verdict for the latter date, opens by recounting the circumstances under which the Council was called, and states that the complaining churches were fully authorized in calling a Council. At the same time the opinion is expressed that the complaining churches did not exhaust all means of getting from Plymouth church a compliance with their request for a mutual Council. It is also stated that the tone of some of the letters of the complaining churches was not such as the Council approved of. With regard to the matter of Mr. Beecher's advice it is sought, they express the opinion that under the usages of the Congregational Church, Plymouth church erred in dropping a member from its roll because he had abandoned the church for some time, especially when charges were preferred against him. The letter of remonstrance and advice, with which the correspondence commenced, the report stated, was not uncalled for. The report concluded by censuring Plymouth church for inaction, but, at the same time, it advises other churches to maintain the same fellowship with Plymouth church as formerly, with conditions that if the church error again it should be blotted out from fellowship with other Congregational churches. The Moderator then stated that this was the advice of the Council to the churches, and hoped it would throw light in their path to guide them in the future. The Rev. Dr. Storrs, in behalf of both churches, expressed their sense of indebtedness to the Council for their interests and the freedom of expression in dealing with the matter, and especially for the extended discussions through which they passed in their sessions. In reviewing the past he saw but little to regret, and was glad they had brought into expression such principles as were now before the country and by such a body of intellectual and intelligent men who composed this Council. Thanks were then given to God for guiding the Council in its deliberations, and by the pastors of the inviting churches for courtesies to the delegations, and after the doxology had been sung and the benediction pronounced, the Council adjourned *sine die*.

THE COMMITTEE

to prepare the formal result of the action of the Council was as follows: Rev. Dr. Leonard Bacon, New Haven; Rev. Dr. T. M. Post, of St. Louis; Prof. Egbert C. Smythe, of Andover; Rev. Dr. A. H. Quint, of New Bedford; Rev. Dr. W. W. Patton, of Chicago; Hon. C. S. Hammond, of Chicago; Mr. J. Russell Bradford, of Boston.

NEW YORK, March 29.—It is stated from reliable authority, that the final vote giving the result of the deliberation of the Council was as follows: 87 voted for the result as it stands; 8 voted against it, and 25 refused to vote at all.

In Plymouth church, while its members regard much of the Council's final vote as not sound, yet in general they consider it an entire vindication of the liberty of Plymouth church, and they are greatly rejoiced over it.

After the morning services at the Clinton avenue church, Rev. Leonard Bacon, Moderator of the late Council, read its decision to the congregation, but in Plymouth church, where the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher presided, not the slightest allusion was made to it.

FORT WAYNE.

An Independent International Exposition---Bold Highway Robbery---An Anti-Temperance Meeting.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., March 28, 1874.

For the last two months the committee have been meeting every Saturday afternoon to select land for the new fair grounds. After much trouble and many selections, they have finally settled it by leasing a large tract owned by Thomas Sweeny, one mile west of the city. A meeting to arrange for a fair and exposition, to be held next September, is called for next Friday. It is intended to make this exposition an extensive affair, and open to the world.

Last night, about ten o'clock, Fred. Jacoby was attacked by three roughs on Lafayette street and robbed of forty-five dollars. All three were arrested to-day and are now in jail.

A large meeting is being held to-night in Ewing's Hall by the anti-temperance people, who will give their views in opposition to the present movement.

THE Great White River Flour is now being made under a new patent, and is giving general satisfaction. It is now the leading brand in this market. Every dealer should keep it.

LUXURY, Health, Economy insured by using Dooley's Yeast Powder. Elegant light rolls, biscuits, &c., prepared in ten minutes. Try it.

CHEAPEST

Flour AND Grocery House

IN PITTSBURGH.

HEADQUARTERS FOR

Fish, Goshen Cheese

AND

The Great White River Flour,

Complete Line Groceries, Flour and Roasted Coffee.

SUGARS, SYRUPS, MOLASSES, &c.

☞ No Retail House connected with this establishment.

Orders by Mail Promptly Filled. No Charge for Drayage.

ELECTION NOTICES.

☞ EXCHANGE BANK, PARKER, PA.

A meeting of the Stockholders of this Bank will be held at Banking House, Parker, Pa., on FRIDAY, April 10th, between the hours of 1 and 3 P. M., for the purpose of electing nine Directors to serve during the ensuing year.

A. B. DAVITT, Cashier.

Parker, Pa., March 26, 1874.

☞ ALLEGHENY VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY. OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company will be held at the Office of the Company, corner Eleventh and Pike streets, Pittsburgh, in Room No. 12, on 11 o'clock o'clock A. M.,

ON TUESDAY, April 14th, 1874

For the purpose of Electing a Board of Managers to serve for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before them.

W. H. TOMLINSON, Secretary.

Pittsburgh, Pa., March 12, 1874.

☞ FOR CONGRESS—

ALEX. M. WATSON

Will be a candidate for the Congressional Nomination in the next Republican Convention for 20th District. d*

☞ FOR CONGRESS IN TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT.

THOS. M. BAYNE

Will be a candidate for Congress in the Twenty-third District, subject to the decision of the Republican Convention. 6*

FLOUR! FLOUR! FLOUR!

RISING SUN,

Bags and Barrels.

This Flour draws Trade, as it gives the best satisfaction.

F. W. JENKINS & BRO.,

255 LIBERTY STREET.

Boots and Shoes!

GILL & BRO

LARGE WHOLESALE HOUSE,

NO. 253 LIBERTY STREET.

One of the Largest Spring Stocks Ever Brought to the Market.

The Commercial.

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1874.

THE election of Gen. BURNSIDE to the United States Senate from Rhode Island, to succeed SPRAGUE, would be a great gain to that body. The latter is a splendid failure.

NOTHING can be more funny than the lamentable failure of the *Post* to be funny every attempt it makes to be funny constitutes the only fun ever to be found in its columns.

THE Philadelphia *Press* does not propose to be outdone by GEORGE ALFRED TOWNSEND. The latter is engaged in the preparation of a "work" on Senator SUMNER, and the former is instructing the new English government as to "the most judicious way" of dealing with the income tax in that country.

SOME time ago, it will be recollected, Hon. FELIX R. BRUNOT effected a treaty with the Ute Indians whereby provision was made for opening up to white settlement some four million acres of valuable mining lands in Southwestern Colorado. The House approved the treaty last Friday, and it is expected that the State will ratify it this week.

THE Democratic party of Boston is trying to reorganize itself "on the reformed Tammany plan and in the interest of political morality," and the *Post* of that city is sanguine of a successful issue to the experiment, which in its nature, is as though the Roman Catholic Church should "reform" itself into an organization for promoting the interests of Protestantism.

NOTWITHSTANDING the backwardness of the season, there is at last a reasonable prospect of a comparatively satisfactory spring trade. New York papers state that the influx of buyers from the country during the past few days has been such as to tax the hotels almost to their utmost capacity. The West and Southwest, as well as New England, are numerously represented, and jobbers and commission merchants especially are beginning to feel quite hopeful.

THE committee having in charge the money paid to the United States under the Geneva award has shown signs of life the past week. Three votes were taken—one determining by a majority of two that the insurance claims should not be rejected; the second by a majority of five that the money should not remain in the Treasury, but should be distributed according to equity; and third, a tie on the point whether the claims should be referred to a commission or to a court. Short work ought to be made with the whole matter.

THE exports from the port of New York, exclusive of specie, for the week ending March 24, amounted to $5,413,034, against $5,260,947 for the corresponding week in 1873, and $3,120,737 for that of 1872. The total value of the exports from the first of January to that date, was $62,914,982, against $59,026,609 for the corresponding period of 1873, and $48,937,989 for the year before. The customs receipts for the week ending that date were as follows: New York, $2,508,654 80; Boston, $291,-086 88; Baltimore, $198,635 88; and Philadelphia, $176,169 75.

WE OBSERVE that a proposition for establishing shipyards for the construction of iron ships, one to be located on the Mississippi, and the other at some point on the Atlantic coast, was under consideration by the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives last week. There is a fat subsidy connected with the scheme, and therefore it ought not to succeed. The splendid achievements in this line of Mr. JOHN ROACH in his shipyards at Chester, in this State, show that individual enterprise can make itself thoroughly successful without any help from the government.

THERE has been a considerable falling off in the importation of dry goods during the present month, as compared with the corresponding period of last year. Up to last Saturday the total amount of goods entered at the port of New York—foreign value—foot up $10,726,967, against $14,936,605 for the corresponding month last year, and $17,917,473 in 1872. In the manufactures of silks there is a decrease of $673,695, in cotton a loss of $769,923, and in wool a decrease of $787,886. For the first quarter of the present year the returns give a total of $32,624,559 as the value in foreign cost of goods entered at that port during that period, against $44,593,670 during the same time last year, and $49,878,526 in 1872. These facts would seem to indicate such improvements in our own processes of manufacture as are gradually making it possible to produce home-made goods of a quality excellent enough to prevent by competition the sale of foreign ones.

AND now the Democratic press accuses President GRANT of "shabbily" treating the delegation representing the South Carolina Taxpayers' Convention, appointed for the purpose of laying their grievances before the general government, because, at their interview with him the other day, he answered them, in effect, that South Carolina was a sovereign State under the Constitution of the United States, and that no department of the national government had the right to interfere with its local affairs; and that if the majority of the people of South Carolina were in fact, as alleged, untrustworthy, it was a misfortune which must, under our form of government, be endured until the masses could be improved in morals and intelligence. What else could he have told them? What do they want? Do they expect Congress to overturn their State government, and disfranchise the negroes, in order that they may obtain control of the local administration?

THE passage of Mr. MCCRARY'S Transportation bill, in the House, is more significant, should the Senate adopt it, of what is to follow than of what it enacts. Its principal feature is the enunciation of the principle that Congress, under the constitutional provision which gives it power to regulate commerce between the States, has the authority to regulate and prescribe the rates of inter-State transportation. The bill does not undertake the task of fixing such rates, but it asserts the right of Congress to do it; and if the bill becomes a law, the after legislation will be the most important, because it will have to descend to practical details instead of dealing in general principles. It is easy enough to enunciate a general claim of power; it is only when we get down to the details of putting it in operation that the work becomes difficult. The passage of MCCRARY'S bill, therefore, is only the first step on a new line of legislation. The railroad companies have paid no attention to this assertion of the general power of Congress over the subject of transportation; but when it comes down to the application of the principle to them, it is safe to conclude that they will be on hand and give the closest possible attention to the details.

THE unanimous vote of the Ohio Senate declaring WELCH, the Republican candidate for State Treasurer duly elected by the people, shows that political parties are sometimes asked to do things which no amount of party discipline can force them into. The popular vote in Ohio, last fall, was close, but WELCH, the Republican candidate for State Treasurer, was returned as elected by about 1,000 majority. By the blundering carelessness of some of the election officers, however, in the returns made to the proper department at Columbus, the vote for WELCH and that given for other candidates on the same ticket, became transposed, and WEIMER, the Democratic candidate for State Treasurer, imagining that because the State Senate was Democratic, it would count him in by any available method, if one offered, took advantage of these blunders to claim that he was elected, and instituted a contest, which he depended on the Democratic majority in the Senate to decide in his favor. The Democratic Senators, to their credit be it spoken, did not dare to take that responsibility. The evidence showed that WELCH had a majority, and they decided unanimously that he was duly elected. This abortive attempt of the Democratic candidate to sneak into an office to which he was not chosen, must make him feel very cheap.

THE Senate Committee on Patents has done a good thing in refusing to recommend the extension of the "Danner railway car-brake" patent. This patent has already had an existence of twenty-two years, and the application which has now been refused, was for an additional extension of seven years. Enormous sums have been paid to the patentees in royalties by the railways of the country, every penny of which was charged to operating expenses and paid from the proceeds of transportation. Several suits are now pending against railways in the Northwest for damages sustained by their use of the patent without license. In one of these suits a decree was recently made by the Circuit Court of the United States for the Northern district of Illinois, giving to the patentees some $450 per year for each car on which the brake has been used without a license, and the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* is informed that if this basis of computing damages is sustained by the Supreme Court of the United States, it will result in judgments against the railways of the Northwest amounting to over $50,000,000; yet, not content with these enormous gains, the patentees have had the effrontery to again demand of Congress to add seven years to the life of the gigantic monopoly. The House committee will unquestionably follow the sensible course which the Senate committee has pursued in this matter.

AN INTERESTING PAPER.

Persons who intermeddle, however perfunctorily or superficially with natural science, are aware that, of late years, hardly any subject has been investigated with greater curiosity, or with more interesting results, than the sun. The most conspicuous of celestial bodies and nothing less than intrusive in forcing itself on the attention, until lately it concealed its secrets effectually from the explorer's research. The great luminary might be said to be "dark from excess of light," the element which contributes so much to the elucidation of other heavenly bodies, increasing indefinitely the difficulties of observation. By new methods, however, more perfect instruments, and the concentration of scientific results ascertained in the wide fields of astronomy an amount of knowledge pertaining to the sun has been accumulated, in the course of the last few years, which suffices to render it, even to the general reader, one of the most interesting astronomical objects. A good sized volume is now required to contain even the "popular science" of the subject, the phrase implying not merely positive facts and completely established conclusions, but those speculations and deductions which, rational upon the whole, are sometimes not less legitimate or entertaining because they may rest in part upon the imagination.

We have been led into present mention of the subject from a desire to direct attention to a valuable contribution to the study of solar physics lately made by a gentleman of this city, Prof. S. P. LANGLEY, of the Allegheny Observatory. The paper is contained in SILLIMAN'S *American Journal of Science and Arts* for February, 1874, and is devoted to an examination of "the minute structure of the solar photosphere." Unaided by the drawing with which the paper is illustrated, it would be impossible to give any satisfactory account of Prof. LANGLEY'S researches. With such aid they are full of interest even to persons not particularly conversant with astronomy, and are evidently the result of prolonged and painstaking telescopic observation of the sun. One of the conclusions announced in the article is startling. From a comparison of the total area covered by the sun-spots with the area of the whole sun, Prof. LANGLEY thinks we are entitled to say that the greater part of the solar light comes from an area of not over one-fifth of its visible surface, a proportion which may be indefinitely less. But the chief interest of the paper doubtless consists in the close observation and accurate record of minute solar phenomena, a department of physical study presenting extreme difficulties, and this feature of the paper can hardly fail to receive grateful recognition everywhere on the part of practical astronomers. Indeed, such recognition, we have incidentally learned, it has already received from M. FAYE, late President of the French Academy of Sciences, and widely celebrated for his investigation of the subject of solar physics.

We are probably safe in taking for granted that Mr. WILLIAM THAW is the "citizen of Pittsburgh," whose "liberality" is mentioned by Professor LANGLEY as having supplied the equatorial with the special accessories required in the observations described.

THE committee of seven appointed to prepare the formal result of the action of the Congregational Council convened to inquire into certain issues between Plymouth church and a number of other Congregational churches, have agreed upon a report censuring in some minor matters the course of the summoning churches, but sustaining them on all the great points in dispute, and as regards the question of fellowship between them and Plymouth church advising them in view of the more satisfactory statements on the grave questions at issue in the reply of the church received since their case was presented, to continue for the present in accord with their brethren of that organization; but justifying them, if occasion should arise in the future, in proceeding to exercise their undoubted right of withdrawal from such intimate relations. It is expected that the report will to-day be adopted by a final vote as the expression of the Council's views, and it is believed that its judgment will be accepted in the various Congregational churches of the United States. The chief object of the Council appears to have been, not so much to settle the particular questions in controversy between the Brooklyn churches, as to show that the order, discipline and fellowship of the Congregational system are dear to the great mass of those who are associated under that polity, and to form a more definite basis of association for the future.

BETTER news comes from India, concerning the famine in that country; the latest accounts showing that even in those districts where the suffering has been most severe, the distress is being gradually but effectively relieved. Lord SALISBURY, the new Secretary of State for India, has announced a loan of ten millions sterling, of which three millions are to be devoted to meeting the exigencies of the famine. India, like our own country, has a government note currency. It is, however, at par, and has been kept so from its first issue. It was first sanctioned in an act passed by the government of India, July 16, 1861, which created a Department of Public Issue to manage the new paper currency. Circles of issue were established from time to time as they became necessary, and the notes were made legal tender within the circle in which they were issued, and were payable at the place of issue and also at the capital city of the Presidency within which that place was situated. The Currency laws have been several times amended, and were consolidated in 1871. There are ten currency circles, the chief of which are at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. The population of British India is 191,307,070, living on an area of 950,919 square miles, showing an average of 201 persons to a square mile. The dependencies of British India consist of a number of native States covering an area of 646,147 square miles, with upwards of forty-six millions of population.

Important Revenue Circular.

(From the Washington Star, March 28.)

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has addressed a circular letter to all Collectors of Internal Revenue, calling their attention to a recent decision of the Supreme Court, where it is held that the government may bring action for the recovery of taxes, not only of such as are assessed, but also of those which are not assessed, and likewise of those which on account of the statute of limitations are not accessible. The Commissioner says: I desire that you will exert yourself to discover all cases in your district where any taxes cannot now be assessed owing to the limitation of section 20, act June 30th, 1864, amended, and section 5, act of March 2d, 1867), without a waiver of those limitations by the tax-payers. In all these cases you will notify the delinquents that if they make a written waiver of their legal rights under these statutes across the face of their returns, the taxes will be assessed without penalty. But in cases where delinquents neglect or refuse to take this course, you will at once report the facts to the United States District Attorney, referring him at the same time to the terms of the above mentioned decision of the Supreme Court. In view of the importance of action in this matter, collectors are urged to prompt action.

Highway for Western Commerce.

The New York *Bulletin* notes, among other vast projects of internal improvements, the union of the Mississippi with the waters of the Atlantic by means of a grand aqueduct across the Allegheny mountains. On the bosom of this airy conduit the mind's eye can discover, or is asked to discover, at some future day, the editor says, myriads of canalboats freighted with the products of the mighty West, steaming along to the seaboard, and settling at once the vexed question of cheap transportation and direct trade with Europe. It is expected to be a brilliant success, but the editor does not participate in the existing enthusiasm on the subject. He can see the way for the barges and propellers across the mountain tops, so far as civil engineering is concerned, but we do not see, he says, clearly how the money is to be engineered out of the Federal Treasury. * * If $25,000,000 is appropriated to-day to move those propellers and barges across the Alleghanies, how can we to-morrow persistently deny a subsidy for some other like magnificent castle in the air?

INSUFFICIENCY.

BY RICHARD GRANT.

I.

Lo! this is Christdom: this same blessed Earth,
From its clear coronals of the air we breathe,
Down to the primal granite underneath
Its mountains—hast had very notable birth
Out of Judaic insufficiency:—
But what are we but unbelieving men,
Who put not Christ in our philosophy,
And only call our brothers brethren,
On Sabbaths merely? Tooth for tooth is good,
We think, on week days: the old rigor that,
With literal eye for eye and blood for blood,
Through the sad centuries strivest to tread flat
The memorable Hill from which alone
We dare lift steady eyes to the Unknown.

II.

What shall we say, then? That our brothers crimes
Augur our own diseases: that his hurts
Imply our shames: that the same bond engirts
Alike the man who lapses and who climbs:
That formulas and credos, when divorced
From the great spirit of all enfolding ruth,
Leave still the lean and thirsty world a-thirst
For the deep heart and blessedness of Truth:
That in the noblest there is something base,
And in the meanest, noble: that behind
The sensual darkness of the human face,
Not to be quenched by any adverse wind,
Enough of God's light flickers for a sign
That our best possible is His Divine.

III.

Here's room for Poets: here is ground for Seers:
Broad leagues of acres furrowed for the seed
Whose recompensing sheaves of Song shall all
breed
Within the bosom of the garnering years,
Harvests of spiritual plenty. O ye lips
Anointed for the proper utterance
Of what things lie in worthy fellowships:—
O eyes whereto the dread significance
Of life's vast mystery is visible—
For lack of ye the poor Earth perishes:
The patient Earth, so very beautiful:
The comely Earth, so clung with noble stress—
Aching for Heaven unutterably, and wet
With most immortal tears and bloody sweat.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

One of the signs of the times—Signing the temperance pledge.

This is the "age of speculation." It is Senatorial, in Massachusetts.

The question of contraction or expansion in Bald mountain is still pending.

March is going out like one of the best behaved lambs that was ever slaughtered.

It is being generally discovered that soup-poultice is not a good remedy for pauperism.

A new farmers' society is gaining a foothold in the West—"The Advocates of Industry."

In addition to her banditti, Missouri has a baby weighing one pound six ounces, and it isn't the Governor, either.

A young lady bearing the name of Trotter is a candidate for office in Illinois. She ought to run ahead of her ticket.

And now New Bedford, Massachusetts, has determined to open its Public Library on Sundays. It will reach us by-and-by.

The Baltimore *American* cites the remarkable fact that there are at present in the harbor of that port thirty-one Italian vessels.

Missouri wants Congress to improve the Gasconade river. It can't do it. Thus far it has even failed to improve its own gasconade.

What is called the Eastern slope of Massachusetts has had all but four of the United States Senators from that State since 1825.

There are now hardly ten thousand Americans in Paris, a smaller number than there has been at this season, it is said, for twenty years.

Georgia and the Carolinas are steadily sinking, and the ocean is constantly encroaching on the Atlantic coast north of the Chesapeake bay.

There are eight hundred thousand life insurance policy holders in this country, the amount they are insured for being equal to the national debt.

The artist of the New York *Graphic*, returning from Bald mountain, says the best place to see the volcano is in the *Herald*. This seems to imply a doubt.

The temperance excitement, prevalent more or less all over the country, is leading to a marked curtailment in the consumption of barley.

It is again rumored that Senator Conkling, the Adonis of the United States Senate, has bought a controlling interest in the New York *Tribune*.

It is said that when a man of doubtful character goes to Chicago, he gets employment either as a capper for a gambling house, or as an editor of one of the papers.

"It has not yet been decided what distinguished American shall fill that niche in Westminster Abbey."—*Exchange*.

We nominate Fernando Wood. He has a nicheing palm.

Another concession to women's rights. The Secretary of the Treasury decides that where a woman is owner of a yacht she may be named in the papers as the master of the same.

Somebody in Mississippi claims to own the city of Richmond—Mrs. Gaines owns New Orleans—and it is generally believed that Pluto has a first mortgage on the Democratic party.

A number of New York merchants who sympathize with the dissenting views of Mr. H. B. Claflin on the moiety system, are considering the expediency of holding a public meeting.

Cambridge's victory in the University boat race last Saturday, makes this college the victor for five successive years. Since 1869, however, Oxford has won seventeen races to seven by Cambridge.

A St. Louis paper, referring to a certain bill now before the Legislature, wants "every Senator to nip it in the bud as soon as its head appears above water." Every Senator will doubtless prepare to nip.

The Earl of Shaftesbury, who is well known throughout England as a philanthropist, has become President of a company for the establishment of temperance cafes for the laboring classes in London.

Young women are now admitted to University lectures at Cambridge in England at the same time with the young men, and the students of both sexes in the London University are beginning to attend lectures together.

All the other pilgrims to the Holy Land are up in arms against Dr. Beke and his new Mount Sinai. They do not agree as to which of the half dozen peaks claimed is the true Sinai, but they all unite in scouting the Doctor's.

By a queer collocation a Boston paper the other day had two headings in one sentence, as follows: "The Annexation of Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop to Boston—Protection of the Insane." Of course nothing personal was intended.

An abominable traffic has been unearthed by the New York *Graphic*. It is that of making loans on life insurance policies, with an interest of three and a half per cent. a month, besides a commission of ten per cent. of the loan.

The ruling passion strong in danger. An alarm of fire was the other day given in a New York hotel. "Landlord," said a quest—"is the house on fire?" "Yes, sir." "Well, give us one more drink if you please, and we'll get!"

The following is given as a means of cementing leather to metals: The leather is painted with a warm extract of nut galls, the roughened and heated metal is coated with a warm solution of glue, and the leather put on pressed.

An offer has just been made by a responsible firm in Germany to put on a line of steamships between Bremen and Charleston for the carrying of emigrants, "with a guarantee that they will deliver five hundred per week on very liberal terms."

Saratoga, always famous for the magnificence of its hotel accommodations, promises to gather new laurels the coming season by the opening of the new United States, erected on the site of the old States, which was destroyed by fire a few years ago.

There are in New York a number of persons really and zealously in earnest in the effort to introduce the practice of burning the dead instead of burying them. Arrangements are being made for a large public meeting or some other form of demonstration on the subject.

At present colored men can obtain admission only to a few branches of the United States army. A proposition is now pending in Congress to abolish this distinction, and directing the Secretary of War to assignments and transfers to thoroughly amalgamate the two races.

With a deep-seated and atrocious malice, scarcely to be imagined by an ordinary mind, an Englishman's wife recently derisively criticised the pomatum he put on his hair, when, in mere anguish of soul, he immediately picked up an old cutlass and sadly but firmly put an end to her.

The Canadian journals complain that Americans have a habit of coming over the border to take business out of their hands. The other day a Syracuse firm were awarded a contract for making, at an estimated cost of about $1,-500,000, three miles of canal and six locks, to man is, therefore, by Divine authority, and not by a "nature," which is opposed to God's will.

But Mrs. S. further says that this law which subjects woman to man is "finally to be overcome by the 'seed of the woman,' and that when God's plan shall prevail, the dominion of man will come to an end." In other words, the gospel is to emancipate and enfranchise woman. And she gives a number of instances from the Old Testament of the honor put by God upon women, as "way marks" of the good time coming for them under the new dispensation. Now, it is undoubtedly true that even the Jewish dispensation did elevate woman far above the condition in which she was held in Pagan nations, and that Christianity was to do for her still better things. Christ's appearing "first to Mary Magdalene" was a significant act, indicative of the spirit of Christianity as bringing its first and choicest benefits to the female sex. But that the gospel was designed to change the nature of the family relation by giving the wife entirely co-ordinate authority with the husband over the affairs of the household, thus introducing discord where there should be harmony; or that it should impose upon woman a burden of responsibilities relating to matters of State, for which her gentler nature and her normal condition in the domestic state must render her ordinarily unfitted, is anything but true. The gospel is woman's best friend, but this would make it an enemy in disguise. Christ himself certainly gave no intimations of any such design. And if His Apostles are to be regarded as setting forth the true spirit of Christianity, their teachings are flagrantly in conflict with any such enfranchisement as is most universally claimed for women. I need but refer to such well-known passages as 1st Cor. 11: 3, 8, 9; 14: 33, 34; Ephesians, 5: 22-24; 1st Timothy, 2: 11-14; 1st Peter, 3: 1, 5, 7. Readers who choose can turn to these passages, but those who are determined to believe with Mrs. S. had better not take the trouble, if they would possess their souls in peace.

As to the assertion that such passages "have no application whatever to civil government," it is worse than gratuitous. They define woman's relation to man in connection with reasons which are of universal application and hold good politically as well as ecclesiastically, in all ages as well as in that in which they were written. The assertion that they belong to the 'honor the king' class of prudential passages by which the new sect of Christians sought to avoid conflict with the powers that were," implies of course that the powers that be, were not "ordained of God," and that we must be subject *not* "for conscience sake," as the Apostle affirms, but "only for wrath," and from prudential considerations. But this is a fair specimen of the methods of interpretation adopted by Mrs. S. and her class. How worthy of attention such interpretations are, all sensible people can judge.

A. W.

March 27, 1874.

Ask Them?

An advertisement of a medicine, however candid and conscientious it may be, does not always carry conviction with it. The public know to their sorrow that the boastful claims put forth in behalf of many so-called remedies are literally "a delusion and a snare." Probably the best one, therefore, that can be made of the space devoted to it, is this notice of Hostetter's Stomach Bitters is to invite those who read it to inquire of the parties that have tested the curative and preventive properties of the article what they think of it. We earnestly request all doubters to ascertain from such of their friends and neighbors as have taken this standard tonic and alterative as a protection against malarious diseases, or as a cure for indigestion, liver complaint, constipation, rheumatism, nervous debility, headache, low spirits, languor, biliousness, &c., what Hostetter's Bitters has done for them. There is no testimony so trustworthy as that which is the result of personal experience.

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Within the last ten years the progress of discovery in every department of knowledge has made a new work of reference an imperative want.

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The great political revolutions of the last decade, with the natural results of the lapse of time, have brought into public view a multitude of new men, whose names are in every one's mouth, and of whose lives every one is curious to know the particulars. Great battles have been fought and important sieges maintained, of which the details are as yet preserved only in the newspapers and in the transient publications of the day, but which ought now to take their place in permanent and authentic history.

In preparing the present edition for the press, it has accordingly been the aim of the editors to bring down the information to the latest possible dates, and to furnish an accurate account of the most recent discoveries in science, of every fresh production in literature, and of the newest inventions in the practical arts, as well as to give a succinct and original record of the progress of political and historical events.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

SATURDAY EVENING, March 28, 1874.

The Pittsburgh money market shows no change; paper in the hands of the lenders is abundant and rather sluggish of movement. That class of investors who have been accustomed in former times to buy commercial paper, having experienced the uncertainty which in times of financial trouble surround such paper, are now giving the preference to mortgage securities and other undoubted investments, safety being the consideration subservient to the rate of interest. The banks are carrying their customers without trouble, and absorb most of the paper at any rate as first-class.

Below we submit a table of the reports of the national banks, as appears from the statements of their condition on February 27, 1874, furnished to the Comptroller of the Currency:

| | LIABILITIES. | | |

CITY MATTERS.

Letters Held for Postage.

MARCH 29, 1874.

	Cents.
Ryth, M. I., New York	2
Dun & Co., R. G., Quincy, Ill	2
Hoffman & Stirk, Ruff's Creek, Pa	2
Lucore, Rufu, Ridgway, Pa	2

E. C. NAIRY, P.M.

A Hoax.

The Sundays papers of yesterday repeat an other mysterious suicide by drowning in the Allegheny river, on Saturday evening. Nossech, Allegheny river, on Saturday evening. Nossech, the corner took place, and upon careful inquiry we learn that a hoax was perpetrated upon the reporters.

Distressing Accident.

Information reaches us that a distressing accident occurred on Saturday evening at the town of Buena Vista, near Shaner's Station, on the Connellsville Railroad. A lamp exploded, and a lady, whose name we failed to learn, was burned so badly that she died. Her husband was also seriously burned in endeavoring to quench the flames.

A Cutting Affray.

Alaut eleven o'clock on Saturday night a quartel arose between Henry McCristal and John Dempsey, on Sixth street near Penn, when the former rushed into a saloon near by and securing a butcher knife attacked his opponent. Dempsey was badly cut in the arm, but before he could do further mischief, Mc-Cristal was caught by M. G. W. Geary and taken to the lock-up. The offender, for a long time had been proprietor of a saloon at Steubenville, but was lately bought out by the crusaders of that city, when he came to Pittsburgh, and has since been employed as a driver. He was under the influence of liquor when he did the cutting. A hearing will be had this morning.

Coroner's Inquests.

On Friday night Peter Carr retired in usual health at the house of Joseph Wray, near Elizabeth, and was found dead on Saturday morning. The deceased had been afflicted for some time past with hemorrhage, and as the bed clothes were saturated with blood, there could be no doubt but that he died from his disease. Coroner McCallin held an inquest Saturday afternoon. A verdict of death from hemorrhage of the lungs was rendered. The deceased was an Irishman about forty-eight years of age. He leaves a wife and two children.

The Coroner also held an inquest on Saturday morning on the body of a Russian named Kwisagh, who was found dead in his bed Saturday morning at the house of Isaac Silverman, No. 40 Crawford street. The jury rendered a verdict of death from heart disease. The deceased was twenty-seven years of age, and had a wife and two children in Russia. He had been boarding there for some months, and was a painter and glazier by trade.

Visit from Ex-Vice President Colfax.

Hon. Schuyler Colfax, ex-Vice President of the United States, was in town for a few hours on Saturday, en route to his home at South Bend, from a brief visit to friends in New England. Since the retirement of Mr. Colfax from the cares and anxieties of public office, a marked improvement has taken place in his health. The recuperative forces and vitalities of his heavily overtaxed organization have had room and leisure for play, the effect of which is visible in an almost complete rehabilitation and restoration of his physical and nervous system. Mr. Colfax appears to be thoroughly enjoying the long-denied life and escape into the fragrant atmosphere of private citizenship.

Perhaps the most enviable condition of existence is that in which it is possible to be spontaneous. The sense of responsibility sweetens work, and makes it more effective by giving one an appetite for play. It is not surprising that Mr. Colfax should still, amid his business duties and absorptions, find time to respond, somewhat extensively, to the constantly augmenting demands which his fellow citizens are making upon him from all parts of the country for lectures and addresses on various important social and moral questions of the day. With his intellectual vivacity, quickness of observation, and sympathetic instincts, it is, of course, impossible for him, at least, to shut up entirely his talent in the napkin of reserve. He is structurally under the high necessity of steadily developing and using it.

There are few public men of modern years who have ever come out of a blaze of glory as less life "in as knightly a manner as has Mr. Colfax, or respecting whom that fierce partisan light which beats upon public men has so slowly, lessening every blot, has revealed so stainless and clean a breast. From this point, at least, the shafts of calumny have received harmlessly, and he rests all the more securely enthroned in the confidence and esteem of his countrymen by very reason of the hot ordeals through which he has been required to pass. All he has justly won his hearted rest we trust he may live many, many years to enjoy it.

BOARD OF REVISION.

Appeals from Twenty-fourth Ward—Tenth Ward Corrections Twenty-seventh Ward Report Adopted.

The Board of Revision held a session Saturday morning, Mr. S. B. McElroy in the chair.

TWENTY-FOURTH WARD APPEALS.

Appeal of McClung heirs, fourteen acres of land. Assessed value, $112,600. Reduced to $105,000.

Appeal of Wm. Schmolze, house and lots. Assessed value, $4,900; owner's value, $5,360. Value of office per Recorder, $5,000. Dismissed.

Appeal of President Beltzhoover, President of the Birmingham Passenger Railway, asking to be relieved from an assessment for $10,000 exempt.

Secretary Phelps stated that the levy would not be made on the property until a decision of the court could be obtained, whereupon the appeal was withdrawn.

Appeal of Robert Young, land and saw mill. Assessed value, $31,000. Dismissed.

* SUPPLEMENTAL APPEALS.

The Tenth ward committee asked leave to make the following corrections in valuations, so as to conform to the schedule adopted:

Casper Buthouse, from $4,000 to $4,400; David Brubach, from $4,000 to $4,400; Edward Coates, from $1,987 to $1,140; Stewart, Dickson & Co., increased from $4,400 to $5,000; George Dengler, from $1,200 to $1,000; M. Grace, from $10,700 to $9,800; Hussey, Wells & Co., from $36,400 to $45,-400; Jas. Lappan, from $2,200 to $1,600; Wm. McCulley & Co., from $22,300 to $22,000; Thomas N. Miller, from $6,000 to $5,600; Alexander Pomeroy, from $2,400 to $2,000; John Speers, from $1,200 to $1,000; John Speers, from $3,300 to $1,500; James Tilley, from $1,800 to $1,600; Wm. Taylor, from $8,575 to $6,400; Sarah Wilson, from $4,200 to $5,-000; W. W. Wallace, from $6,000 to $5,400.

The report was accepted and approved.

RECONSIDERING A VALUATION.

Mr. Stock moved to reconsider the vote on the report from the Twenty-seventh ward. Carried.

Appeal of Sarah McKnight, fourteen acres. Assessed valuation, $5,000 per acre.

Mr. Stock stated that the owner did not object to the valuation fixed, but on examining property had been reduced, the appellant wanted the price reduced to $2,000 per acre.

On motion, the vote reducing the valution on the property of Joseph and Thomas McClurg and R. B. Brown were reconsidered. The valuations on the McClurg property were fixed at the original price, and that of Mr. R. B. Brown at $125 per foot.

The Twenty-seventh ward was then finally adopted.

The Board then adjourned, to meet on Monday morning, at ten o'clock.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

The Lydia Thompson Burlesque Troupe begin their engagement this evening in "Blue Beard" and the "Forty Fatthen Chinese." It matters little what they play, as they possess to a high degree their symmetrical sweetness—that is to say, their delicious, proportional attractiveness—they are sure to have patrons. They commence this week will be financially successful, and prove a source of ecstatic joy to hundreds of our connoisseurs of female loveliness.

Library Hall—Italian Opera.

And now it is announced that the Di Murska Italian Opera Troupe will sing on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, instead of Monday and Tuesdays as recently announced. No change has been made in the operas selected—"Lucia" and "Faust." The latter it is still going on at Kleber's, a few yet remaining. Of the first named work and Mme. Di Murska's singing in the rote of "Lucia," the New York *Times* says: "Simplicity, melodious, tender and utterly absurd setting of Walter Scott's 'Bride of Lammermuir' was given at the Grand Opera House last evening. The principal characters being interpreted by Mlle. Di Murska, Signor Verati, and Signor Enrico Mari. Mlle. Di Murska achieved as signal a success and decided triumph in the more exacting work of the composer of 'Lucrezia Borgia' than the lighter strains of Bellini. It is very difficult to criticise or particularize where all was so admirably sufficient. And throughout Donizetti's opera her pathos and the mellow, sympathetic quality of her voice showed to far greater advantage than in the 'Sonnambula.' It was by all odds the most astounding vocal performance we have had since the days of Sontag. And as surprising as the wonderful feats she performs, is the marvelous ease and skill with which she executes them, even after passage of these startling and unexpected phases of her art. All her performances are unique, unlike those of any previous artist, and yet always consonant with the dramatic situation, and the aim, purpose and color of the composer's intent in the air, duet, or concerted piece she may be interpreting.

Trimble's Varieties Theater.

"The show of the period" is what they now call that given at Trimble's Varieties; and the name fits it to a "T." For the present week a considerably number of new artists are announced to appear. We notice among them the names of the Winnetts, Thomas and Lottie; Miss Marie Roscelle, the original sensation "Biddy;" Lulu Delmary, the charming soubrette; Harry Kernell, Lizzie Stemple, Sig. Farranti, Master Johnny Williams, John Williams, Charlie Howard, G. W. Herman, Lucy Clifton, Emma Ellinger, H. W. Williams and others fill out the ranks of the company. In addition to the excellent olio, a sensation drama, "The Union Scout, or True to the Flag," and a new burlesque, "The Circassians," will be given every night, and at the Wednesday and Saturday matinees.

Fred. A. Aims' American Theater.

The first week's trial of the policy of low prices demonstrated its wisdom, as each night saw the house crowded. The company, at the same time, was kept up to its usual standard of excellence. This week new attractions will be furnished, several artists being added to the company. At the head of the list stands Mlle. Bantanblen, one of the most dancing as well as most graceful of trapeze performers now on the stage. The Hughes, Annie and Andy, will stay another week, as will Miss Cheever and her troupe. The latter will produce for the first time in this city a burlesque entitled "Colleen Bawn," entitled "Miss Eily O'Connor." Valentine Love's sensational drama, "Broken Banks and Broken Hearts," will be given nightly. On Wednesday evening Mr. James Woodbridge, the worthy doorkeeper, has his annual benefit. He deserves a good one.

English Opera—Kellogg.

During five nights of Easter week Library Hall will resound to the sweet notes of the Kellogg English Opera Company, under direction of Mr. C. D. Hess. As at present organized the company contains the following leading artists: Miss Clara Louise Kellogg, Madame Isabella Brignoli, Mrs. Joseph Maas, Mr. Seguin, Miss Starbird, Mr. Joseph Maas, Mr. Theo. Habelmann, Mr. Henry Peakes, Mr. Eugene Clarke, Mr. Gustavus Fenich. The Chorus will be strong, as Mr. J. manad the accompaniments. Full particulars will be given to-morrow.

The Vokes Family Again.

The Vokes family who played at Library Hall for one week during the past winter, appearing to crowded houses every night, have week, and will appear all the same ball on Monday evening, April 6th.

Academy of Music.

On Monday evening, April 6th, Miss Kate Putnam and her comedy company will appear at the Academy of Music, in a round of favorite plays. In her line of characters, Miss Putnam has few if any superiors on the stage. Mr. Y. E. Beamer will attend to the management of affairs during this engagement.

THE PIPE CONTRACT.

OPINION OF PROMINENT ATTORNEYS

The Contract Legal and Binding.

Mr. Hamilton's Opinion Reviewed---The Question Elaborately Considered.

We publish below interesting opinions from some of our most prominent attorneys on the question of the legality of the contract with Mr. William Smith for furnishing pipe for the new water works. It will be seen that the contract is declared legal and binding, and it is claimed that to attempt to overthrow it would be an act of injustice. After presentation of the opinions the committee, as will be seen in our report elsewhere, reconsidered their previous action in ordering legal proceedings and postponed the matter. Following are the opinions:

OPINION OF PROMINENT ATTORNEYS.

To Mr. William Smith:

At your request we have carefully examined and considered the question which has been raised touching the authority of the late Water Commission to make the contract with you for the supply of water pipes, which the commission, acting on your behalf and in the name of the City of Pittsburgh, entered into on the 3d day of January, 1874.

We have reached the following conclusions, viz:

1st. That the commission, in entering into said contract, was the legal and duly authorized agent of the city of Pittsburgh.

2d. That the contract is binding upon the city, unless it can be successfully assailed for some reason other than the supposed want of authority in the Commissioners to enter into it on behalf of the city.

The foregoing conclusions, which we believe rest on sound legal principles, are also in consonance with the justice of the case. We understand that upon the faith of the contract in question, you have entered into engagements involving large expenditures of money; that you have actually completed at least one-half of your contract, and that large sums of money are now due you for work done. Under these circumstances it would be grossly inequitable for the city to attempt to set aside the contract.

It has been alleged, we know that Roland H. Smith, who was a member of Councils at the time the contract was made, was or is interested therein. This, however, is strenuously denied, and we have no reason to doubt the truth of that denial. The contract being made in your name alone, the presumption is that no other party had or has any interest in it. And if the city of Pittsburgh undertakes by a bill in equity to have the contract rescinded on account of Roland H. Smith's supposed interest therein, the burden of proof will be upon the city to show his interest.

Moreover, Councils had contemporaneous knowledge that the Commissioners had contracts with you, and it was then as well known as it is now, that Roland H. Smith was connected with the firm of Wm. Smith & Sons. It strikes us, therefore, as rather late in the day for the city to attempt to impeach the contract on the ground of his supposed interest in it.

M. W. ACHESON,
GEO. SHIRAS, JR.,
A. M. BROWN,
S. SCHROYER, JR.

PITTSBURGH, March 28, 1874.

OPINION OF J. F. SLAGLE, ESQ.

PITTSBURGH, March 28, 1874.

WM. SMITH, Esq.—Sir: In accordance with your request, I have examined the opinion of George P. Hamilton, Esq., in reference to the organization of the Water Commission of the city of Pittsburgh. After giving it the careful consideration which his recognized ability as a lawyer, and the importance of the question involved, and having received the opinions given by me to Councils when the ordinance was pending, I find no reason to modify the views then expressed. As to the principles of law governing the matter there is no difference of opinion between us. He misstates the force of my opinion when he says "the fundamental error in it is in assuming that the councils are a legislative body, possessing inherent powers of legislation." There is nothing in it becoming such a construction. The broad principles laid down by me has the same meaning as "deliberation" used by him, and refers to such corporate acts as must be done by Councils as a body. I am justified in the use of the term by the act of 1867, city charter, p. 34, sec. 24, which enacts that "the Councils of said city shall have all the *legislative* power granted in this act and all other corporate powers of the city, etc."

I also agree with him in his statement that the "governing body of a municipal corporation has no power to make contracts or pass ordinances by-law which conflict with any general or special law, or which disable them from performing their public duties," and I stated this proposition as broadly in my opinion to Councils. He also restates positions taken by me when he says "the governing body of a municipality in the nature of things must employ subordinate officers to do the detail portion of these functions. Their powers are both deliberative and administrative—the former cannot be delegated, the latter may be, and generally are, but they can only be devolved upon legally appointed officers of the corporation or members of the governing body; with this exception, however, when the duties to be performed are not purely or strictly of a municipal character, but partially of a private nature, they may be conferred temporarily upon strangers as special agents clothed with limited specific powers."

He also admits the right of the city to construct water works by virtue of its inherent powers, aside from the direct authority of the act of 1857.

But there is another principle, to which Mr. Hamilton does not refer. That when the mode of exercising the power granted in a corporation is specially prescribed and limited, that mode is exclusive, and must be pursued; but unless the mode be prescribed, the Councils, contracts within the scope of the corporate powers may be made in such manner as they may deem proper. These are the general principles relating to corporate action, and the only material difference between us is their application to this case.

The first question that arises is, are the duties imposed upon the Water Commission legislative, or are they administrative? Upon it that legislative or deliberative functions are those which require the consideration of Councils in its corporate capacity and adoption by the concurrent votes of the two branches of Councils, while administrative duties are those assigned to any of the will of Councils so expressed. In this case it appears that Councils, on March 31, 1870, appointed a commission to examine the ground and report a plan for water works. They reported one plan for a supply from the Monongahela and two for a supply from the Allegheny. Each of these plans were specific in setting forth the location, size of conduits, pumping works, and size and locations of mains and pipes for making connections with present works, and an estimate of the cost of each. On July 10, 1871, Councils adopted one of these plans, with some modifications, and on October 30, 1871, passed an ordinance "to provide for the erection of new water works," being then the ordinance in dispute. The provisions of this ordinance are briefly as follows:

Section 1 provides for the election of Commissioners by Councils, two of them to be members of Councils. Section 2 authorizes them to employ engineers and assistants subject to approval of Councils. Section 3 requires bonds from officers and authorizes the commissioners to prescribe their duties. Section 4 is as follows: "Said Commissioners shall have charge and supervision of the erection and construction of the water works *in accordance with the general plan adopted by council on the 14th day of July* 1871, subject to such modifications as councils may hereafter direct." Sections 5 and 6 relate to the purchase or taking of lands subject to the approval of councils. Section 7 authorizes the Commissioners to prepare detailed plans for the construction of the water works *in accordance with the general plan*, and after advertisement to contract with the lowest and best bidder for all work and materials, which contracts, by section 9, are to be made in the name of the city, and when necessary, to be signed by the Mayor, who is authorized to affix the corporate seal. Section 8 prevents the Commissioners or employers from taking any interest in any contract made.

Section 10 provides for the issue of bonds, which, by section 11, are to be sold under the direction of the Commissioners, and the money paid to the City Treasurer. Section 12 requires the Controller to take receipts for bonds delivered to the Commissioners for sale, and to keep account of the same. Section 13 provides for the payment of money on claims certified by the Commissioners, to be paid as other claims against the city by warrants.

From this statement of the provisions of the ordinance it will be observed that Councils resolved to erect water works according to a plan adopted by them, who alone had a right to modify it; they directed what officers and assistants should be employed, and the salaries to be paid to each; they retained the right to purchase or take lands; they authorized the issue of bonds by the proper officers of the city; they required the money to be paid into the City Treasury and paid out in the manner required by law, and did nothing to bind themselves or their successors, or to prevent them from reassuming all or any part of the power granted, except so far as might be necessary to carry out contracts made within the limits of the power conferred.

To the Commissioners was granted the power to employ assistants as prescribed by Councils; to have charge and supervision of the erection of the works, in accordance with the general plan, adopted by Councils, to select sites for basins, and if not to approval by Councils; to prepare detailed plans in accordance with the general plan; to advertise for work and materials, and let to the lowest bidder, and make contracts in the name of the city; to direct the sale of bonds; to certify claims for work and materials. It will be observed that all of these duties are either under the direct control of Councils, or limited by restrictions beyond which the Commissioners could not lawfully go, and appear to be strictly and clearly executive in their character. The difficulty in appreciating this arises from the magnitude of the work, the large sums of money and extends over a great length of time. If it had been an ordinary work, there would scarcely have been a question as to its character. Suppose it had been simply the erection of a pumping station or engine house which Councils had ordered to be constructed in accordance with a plan adopted by them, would any one doubt their right to select one or more persons to superintend the construction, and to make the contracts for the work and materials? The extent of the work, whether it costs hundreds or millions, and takes months or years for its completion, can make no difference in the principle.

This would seem to be one of those matters "of a ministerial nature," which may be conferred temporarily upon strangers clothed with limited specific powers.

Mr. Hamilton admits that the powers conferred on the Water Commission might have been granted to a committe of Councils; and this proposition is but the mere form of language they might have been entrusted to strangers.

It might be a sufficient answer to this objection, that the power was in fact given to members of Councils clothed with deliberative powers, and even if they had intended to do an unlawful act but proceeded lawfully, their acts cannot be affected by the unlawful intention.

But I find no authority for such a distinction. There is nothing in the acts relating to the city of Pittsburgh which prescribes the manner in which the city shall exercise its powers, and the general rule appears to be that where no particular mode is prescribed the Councils have the right to delegate any particular power; such delegation may be either to their own members or others as they may deem proper. In many cases in which the right to delegate has been denied the delegation was made to committees of officers of the corporation. It seems to me to be perfectly clear that if Councils had no right to authorize the Water Commissioners to perform the duties imposed upon them by this ordinance, they could be legally transferred to the Water Committee or any other committee of Councils, and the contracts made by the Water Committee are void. Another objection made by Mr. Hamilton is, that the ordinance interferes with the duties of the City Controller, who is by law the fiscal agent of the city. The only control they have in the matter is in directing sales of bonds. The issue of which receive to be paid into the city Treasury and are to be paid out by warrants drawn by the Mayor, or certified by the Controller in the usual way. The interference is no greater than that of any banker or broker who may be employed to sell bonds. They are simply agents for sale. But even if this were illegal, it would not render the entire ordinance void—that part of it which was in accordance with law would remain good. But aside from the question as to the validity of the appointment of the commission, the contracts made by them may be sustained on other grounds.

It is admitted that the construction of water works is within the powers of the corporation, and the only question is as to the mode of exercising this power. If the contracts made were within the power of Councils, no subsequent ratification would make it good, but where they have simply made a mistake in the appointment of an improper agent, or the agent duly appointed has exceeded his authority, the contracts may be ratified by the Councils who had authority to make it in the first instance, and this may be done by implication as well as by direct action. How does the contract stand in this respect? The Commissioners, acting under the authority of the ordinance, on the 26th day of November, 1872, advertised for proposals for pipes, limited to December 15, 1872. On the 15th of December, owing to the then high prices of iron, they extended the time to December 31st, and in their annual report to Councils reported these facts and recommended Councils to procure legislation to meet the expense of this and other contracts to be made, which legislation was procured at the instance of Councils, who afterward directed the issue of bonds for that purpose. Upon the fruits of this action a large amount of money has been expended and large liabilities incurred, and it would be unjust for the city to repudiate it. It seems to me that this contract is brought within the principle stated by one of our text writers, as follows: "A municipal corporation may ratify the unauthorized acts and contracts of its agents or officers which are within its corporate powers. Ratification may be inferred from acquiescence after knowledge of all the facts, as from acts inconsistent with any other supposition. The same principle is applicable to corporations as to individuals."

This contract was made in good faith after a fair submission to proposals, being the lowest bid of eight, and in my opinion cannot now equitably or legally be rescinded by the city.

The question as to R. H. Smith's connection with the contract is one of fact. If he is not interested in it, Mr. Hamilton's objection on that score fails. As I have the facts on this point, it does not seem that he has any interest in it which disables him from being a member of Councils, or affects the validity of the contract.

I have not inserted in this opinion citations from authorities, though some of the language used is copied from them, because I am confident all the points of law suggested can be fully sustained by decisions of the courts.

Yours, &c.,
J. F. SLAGLE.

EQUITY PROCEEDINGS.

Fifth Avenue Property Holders Protesting Against Change of Grade—The Power to Pave Sidewalks Under Penn Avenue Act.

In the Court of Common Pleas, on Saturday, some ten or twelve property holders on Fifth avenue, representing three hundred and thirty-five feet frontage at Soho, upon which are erected dwellings and warehouses, filed a bill in equity, through their counsel, Mr. McKenna, setting forth that the Commissioners under the Penn avenue act, are changing the grade of the avenue as given to the complainants a few years ago by the city, and by which many of them were recently in the erection of their buildings; that the defendants, including the city have raised the grade in front of their houses as much as six feet, whereby a great and irreparable damage will be done, resulting in the total destruction of their buildings, and the removal of stores which will occasion great loss of rent to such of the complainants as have houses occupied by tenants. The total damage by the change, it is claimed, will amount to $75,000. In case the defendants are acting in accordance with law, which is denied, the Court is asked to compel them to secure the plaintiffs against loss, as provided for by the Constitution, and to restrain them from work until this is done. The city will be required to give proper security, as provided for in the Constitution.

PAVING SIDEWALKS.

In the District Court, Saturday morning, City Attorney Bigelow, filed a bill in equity, in behalf of the city, against the Commissioners for the improvement of Hiland avenue, to test the question whether, under the provisions of the Penn avenue act, the Commissioners have power to pave the sidewalks as well as the carriage-way. The Commissioners are of opinion that they can improve the entire street. In all street improvements heretofore made in the city the Commissioners have only paved the cartways. The argument was postponed until it can be heard before a full bench.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

Quarter Sessions—Judge Collier.

SENTENCES.

The following sentences were imposed Saturday:

Louis Miller; burglary, in entering the premises of an Italian fruit vender; three years to the penitentiary.

Jerry Cravenor; burglary, on oath of Benjamin Reynolds; two years to the penitentiary.

William Herring, of the First ward, who plead guilty to illegal liquor selling, was fined $50 and costs.

Alexander Bannerman, of the Thirtieth ward, indicted for illegal liquor selling, and who entered a plea of *nole contendere*, was fined $75 and costs.

Benjamin Reynolds, who entered a plea of guilty to an indictment for false pretenses on oath of J. S. Ramage, was sentenced to six months imprisonment in jail.

George Roney and Wm. Henderson, for burglary, in the house of Mr. Wilson, Penn avenue street—Roney seven years and Henderson five years to the penitentiary.

The Ogle and Nicholas Fisher, for larceny, were sent to the Workhouse for two years. Fred. Reifle, for same offense, one year.

Henry Reitzell, larceny, three months to the Workhouse.

Joseph Werley, who plead guilty to two charges of larceny, three years to the Workhouse.

Joseph Anderson and Michael McCullough, found guilty of entering the building of Joseph Warnock, Allegheny, will be sent to the Workhouse for one year each.

John Patton, who plead guilty to an indictment for larceny, on oath of John A. Fairman, was sentenced to the Workhouse for six months.

Richard Hays and Patrick Flanery, larceny—Hays, ten months; Flanery one year, to the Workhouse.

Obadiah Wilkie, one year to the Workhouse, for larceny.

Patrick Carrigan and Michael Welsh, assault and battery on Archibald Wallace, fin $ 25 each.

Common Pleas—Judge Stowe.

In the case of Thomas Douglass vs. his wife, Mary Douglass, an action for divorce, the court appointed George F. Gilmore, Esq., examiner to take testimony.

In the case of Julianna Hall vs. Luke B. Hall, alias libel for divorce, on petition of libellant the Court granted a rule on respondent to show cause why he should not pay $300 to defray his wife's expenses pending the suit.

A subpœna was awarded in the cases of Mary McQuade, by next friend, John Williams, vs. C. Klayer vs. Michael McQuade, a libel in divorce.

A rule was granted on the Morse sub-school district to show cause why the decree made in regard to it, on the 21st inst., should not be modified in regard to the terms and time of payment of the sum found due in Humboldt district. A hearing was fixed for next Saturday.

TRIAL LIST FOR MONDAY.

Holmes, Lafferty & Co. vs. McCallister.
Graff et al. vs. the P. V. & C. R. R. Co.
Graham vs. McGovern.
Schooley vs. P. R. R. Co.
Sievers et al. vs. Fass.
Ocean National Bank vs. Manns.
Mark vs. Itzell.
Elliott & Burgess vs. McPherson.
Mark vs. R. M. Dickey et al.
Johnson et al. vs. Bates.
Dickey & Bro. vs. Schuyler.
McNelll & Son vs. Barton & Keeney.
Hartman, trustee, vs. McDonald.

District Court—Judges Ewing and Kirkpatrick.

In the case of Lane and Furguson vs. Knapp & Co., a motion was made by the defendants' counsel for a new trial, and reasons filed for the same.

On motion of S. A. McClung, Esq., Daniel H. Martin and Thomas Sinnickson were duly qualified and admitted to practice in this court.

The argument list for Monday in this court this morning, and attorneys who have cases thereon are requested to be in attendance.

CITY MATTERS IN BRIEF.

PITTSBURGH Councils will meet to-day.

THE public schools will close this week.

THE Duquesne Greys are talking about their summer encampment.

MR. JOHN KISSEY, eighty-six years of age, died in the Seventeenth ward, on Saturday.

COLDWATER Billy and Silver Cloud will trot at Finnegan Park a few week's hence for five hundred dollars.

THE annual session of the County Teachers' Institute will commence to-day in the Second U. P. church, Allegheny.

THE annual report of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be laid before the hands of Councilmen to-day in pamphlet form.

REV. JOHN S. SANDS, pastor of the Eighth U. P. church, who recently resigned from a severe illness, is sojourning for a time in Philadelphia.

EIGHT persons were arrested on Saturday evening for violating and ordinance of Allegheny City, which prohibits loafing about the market house.

THAT pestiperous insect the potato bug, has turned up again, in the shape of numerous garden making has been commenced. The crop promises to be abundant.

DAVID KIRKADDEN and Thomas Reilly will have a hearing this morning to answer a charge of the larceny of a couple of volumes from Pittock's book store on Saturday evening.

AT the Point last night officer John Lyon arrested a man named Robert Brown, and lodged him in the lock-up as a suspicious character. Howe carried a lantern, a club and a policeman's badge. He will have a chance to explain to-day.

THE Swords will case was up again before the Register, on Saturday morning, but little or no witnesses were examined. A final hearing will be had to-morrow morning, when the Register will probably render a decision.

A RESOLUTION indorsing the women's temperance movement and offering the ladies the use of the room in which the councils' meetings was passed at the monthly meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association on Saturday evening.

THE cellar of a private residence on the corner of Fine street and Penn avenue, Allegheny, was entered by thieves on Saturday night, and a lot of pies and wine was stolen. The door leading to the cellar was not securely fastened, and the thieves gained entrance through it.

ON FRIDAY night the liquor store of David Sterne, on Federal street, Allegheny, was entered by burglars, and a basket of champagne and a box of cigars were stolen. The champagne and cigars were valued at thirty-five dollars. The thieves gained entrance through the transom of a back door.

FRED. W. BRAUN, a native of the Prussian Province Westphalia, and who lately came from St. Louis to this city, holds a ticket which calls for passage at the Royal Mail steamers. The fortunate German will start for St. Louis this morning to procure his family and effects from whom he purchased it before leaving that city.

The Albany *Argus* contains this item: A Pittsburgh woman says that one thousand reporters' souls could dance on the point of a needle. We knew a Pittsburgh woman once to tell a lie, and therefore this must be true; but if there weren't other souls "on needles" besides those of reporters, this distressing Council would never have been called.

DR. N. B. PRENTICE, United States Marshal for the Northern District of Ohio, and A. W. Fairbanks, Esq., publisher of the Cleveland *Herald*, were in the city on Saturday. Marshal Prentice is an able, efficient and faithful public servant, while the business tact and enterprise of Mr. Fairbanks, as the publisher of one of the paper publishers in the country, are everywhere known.

We received on Saturday, through the medium of the Postoffice, a dainty little box containing a few dewy-eyed lily-buds and some sprigs of migionette, and one or two other sweet blossoms—the first efflorescent notes of spring ere yet it burst into full lyric and aromatic expression. The fragrant kindness of our anonymous benefactor touched us glad. We found in the gift "a meaning suited to our mind;" and more firmly than ever we believe, with Jean Paul, that the wonderful, that "flowers are the alphabet of the angels."

SOME cowardly villain struck Mrs. Frederick Miller, who lives in the Ninth ward, Allegheny, on the head with a clinker, on Friday evening last, while she was walking in her yard. The woman's husband is employed in the rail mill of Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, and occupies a house in one of their rows of tenement houses, and similar attacks have been made upon her, but neither the cowardly assailant nor the reason of his attack have been revealed. Messrs. Lewis, Oliver & Phillips have offered a reward of five hundred dollars for the conviction of the guilty party.

TWO FELLOWS were arrested in Lancaster on the evening of the 26th inst., who gave their names as William Jackson and Jim Carr, the latter afterwards stating to one person that his name was Michael Murray, and to another that it was Michael Shannt. They claimed to be from Pittsburgh, and had been selling large numbers of postage stamps to different parties. When searched a revolver, bowie-knife, largechisel and other articles were found on them. The Lancaster chief of police had "shadowed" them for several hours before their capture, and found that they were carefully examining the surroundings of banks and stores, trying shutters, etc.

THE WATER COMMITTEE

THE PIPE CONTRACT CONSIDERED.

The Resolution Providing for a Bill in Equity Reconsidered and Postponed---A Smoke Consumer---Expenditures on the New Water Works.

The Water Committee held a special meeting on Saturday evening, Mr. Chalmers in the chair, when a lively discussion took place on the water pipe contract, occasioned by the introduction of opinions from leading attorneys as to its validity.

On the reading of the minutes of the previous meetings a discussion took place relative to the status of the Secretay, Mr. Duff. The matter is not, however, one of public moment.

THE EXPENDITURES ON THE NEW WORKS.

The Chairman stated the object of the meeting was to hear the quarterly report of the committee, to be presented to the Councils to day.

To the Honorable, the Select and Common Councils of the City of Pittsburgh:

We, your Water Committee, most respectfully submit to you our quarterly report of the progress of work of the new water works:

On December 29, 1873, an ordinance was passed by your honorable bodies giving us the powers of the Water Commission, authorizing and directing us to take charge of the water extension and building of the water works.

On Friday, the 2nd day of January, 1874, we elected John C. Duff as our secretary.

On the third day of January, 1874, Mr. Charles Siebert, employed by the Water Committee, gave a trial balance, taken from the books of the Water Commission, up to the date of December 29, 1873, which we respectfully submit herewith:

Engineering department expended	
Office and contingent expense during 1873	$ 29,940 10
Distribution account	5,125 23
Cast iron pipe	67,693 24
Stop-gates	472,991 44
Frames and covers	9,382 75
Brilliant Hill reservoir, total expended	1,272 97
Hiland avenue reservoir, total expended	110,479 10
Herron Hill reservoir, total expended	88,735 15
Engine contract, No. 1	32,740 19
Engine contract, No. 2	67,693 24
Engine foundation, J. Douglas contract	472,991 44
Engine foundation	7,092 39
City finance	76,666 11
National Trust Company	999,404 04
Cash	226,004 41
	2,386 41
Total	$2,425,417 60
Water extension fund bonds sold during the year 1873	$1,728,500 00
Water extension fund bonds, balance from 1872	566,163 57
City of Pittsburgh	130,754 03
Reserve fund No. 5, on pipe contract, 10 per cent	47,299 14
Reserve fund No. 7, stop-gate 10 per cent	938 26
Reserve fund No. 8, furnaces and covers, 10 per cent	127 15
Reserve fund No. 1, Brilliant Hill reservoir, 10 per cent	11,047 91
Reserve fund No. 2, Hiland avenue reservoir, 10 per cent	8,875 52
Reserve fund No. 4, Herron Hill reservoir, 10 per cent	3,274 02
Reserve fund No. 3, engine contract No. 1, 20 per cent	41,828 30
Reserve fund No. 9, engine contract No. 2, 20 per cent	13,732 60
Reserve fund No. 6, foundations, 20 per cent	1,538 47
	$2,425,417 60

Amount of bonds sold, as is shown by the books of the Water Commission to date | $2,957,038 66
Hypothecated by the National Trust Company, and entered on the books | 244,000 00
Total | $3,211,038 66

We have paid out monthly as follows:

Engineering department, three months	$7,411 98
Office and contingent expen. 3 months	1,394 74
Pipe distribution account, 3 months	9,255 76

The expenditures for estimates on the reservoirs for the quarter were:

Brilliant Hill reservoir	$ 4,842 80
Hiland avenue reservoir	6,359 80
Herron Hill reservoir	1,732 00
Engine contract, No. 1	17,137 03

For stop gates, December and January 5,618 68
For frames and covers, Decroit 435 50
Engine contract No. 1, 3 months 30,838 90
Engine contract No. 2, 1 month 9,255 76

The report then gives a statement of the action of the committee in awarding contracts and recording the work upon the reservoir.

The report was approved.

A SMOKE CONSUMER.

The chairman read a communication from Lindsay & Murray requesting the privilege of erecting a smoke consumer on the boilers of the upper water works. The firm agree to effect a saving of fifteen per cent. in fuel, and to erect the consumer without cost to the city, if the correctness of the guarantee is demonstrated the charge to the city will be $650.

On motion of Mr. Chalmers the paper was referred to superintendent Atkinson with instructions to report to the committee.

The chairman then presented the opinions of leading attorneys, elsewhere published, arguing the legality of the pipe contract.

Mr. Watson here offered a resolution re-considering the action of last meeting, when the opinion of Geo. P. Hamilton, Esq., opposing the institution of a bill in equity to annul the contract for water pipe with Wm. Smith, and that the estimates of the Engineer for water pipe delivered in November, December, January and February be received.

Mr. Hunter moved a division of the resolution, and the amendment was accepted by Mr. Watson.

Mr. McCarthy made a speech in support of the opinion of Mr. Hamilton, and said the one fact of Mr. Roland H. Smith having been member of the pipe contracting firm had never been denied. He therefore moved that Mr. R. H. Smith speak for himself.

Mr. Watson said the affidavit of Mr. William Smith, at the time the contract was made, was the best evidence as to who composed that firm.

Mr. Fulton said that it was scarcely proper to call upon Mr. Smith to swear; here, as to the legality of his seat is being contested in Councils. Would it be supposed that Mr. Smith would sit in Councils in violation of the oath he had taken? He thought the resolution ought to be reconsidered.

After some further discussion Mr. McCarthy presented a document to prove that Mr. Roland H. Smith was a member of the firm. Mr. Smith who was present stated that he did not deny the document. A lengthy and somewhat excited discussion took place. Messrs. McCarty, Fulton, Laufman, Watson and Megraw participating.

Finally the question was called on Mr. Watson's motion to reconsider when Mr. McCarthy moved to postpone, and called the ayes and nays. The motion to postpone not being seconded the ayes and nays were ordered in the resolution.

The question on the passage of the resolution to reconsider was then called, when Mr. McCarthy stated he had moved to indefinitely postpone.

The Chairman—Your motion was not seconded.

Mr McCarthy—I call the yeas and nays on the motion to reconsider.

The yeas and nays were then called and resulted as follows: Yeas, Hays, 7. So the motion was adopted.

Mr. McCarthy then moved that the resolution just reconsidered be postponed for two weeks, and that the sub-committee be requested to report at the first meeting in May.

Mr. McCarthy—What facts do you want? There is the legal opinion of Mr. Hamilton. I want the question decided, in